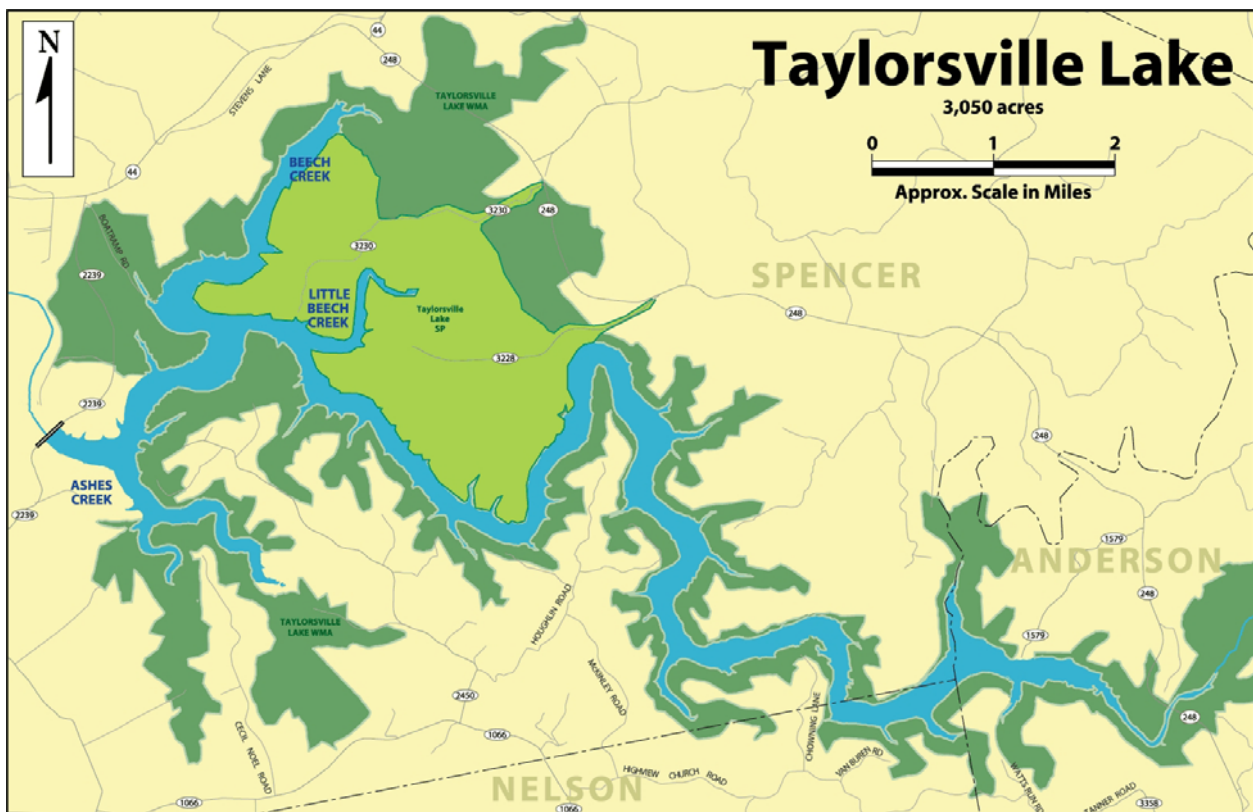


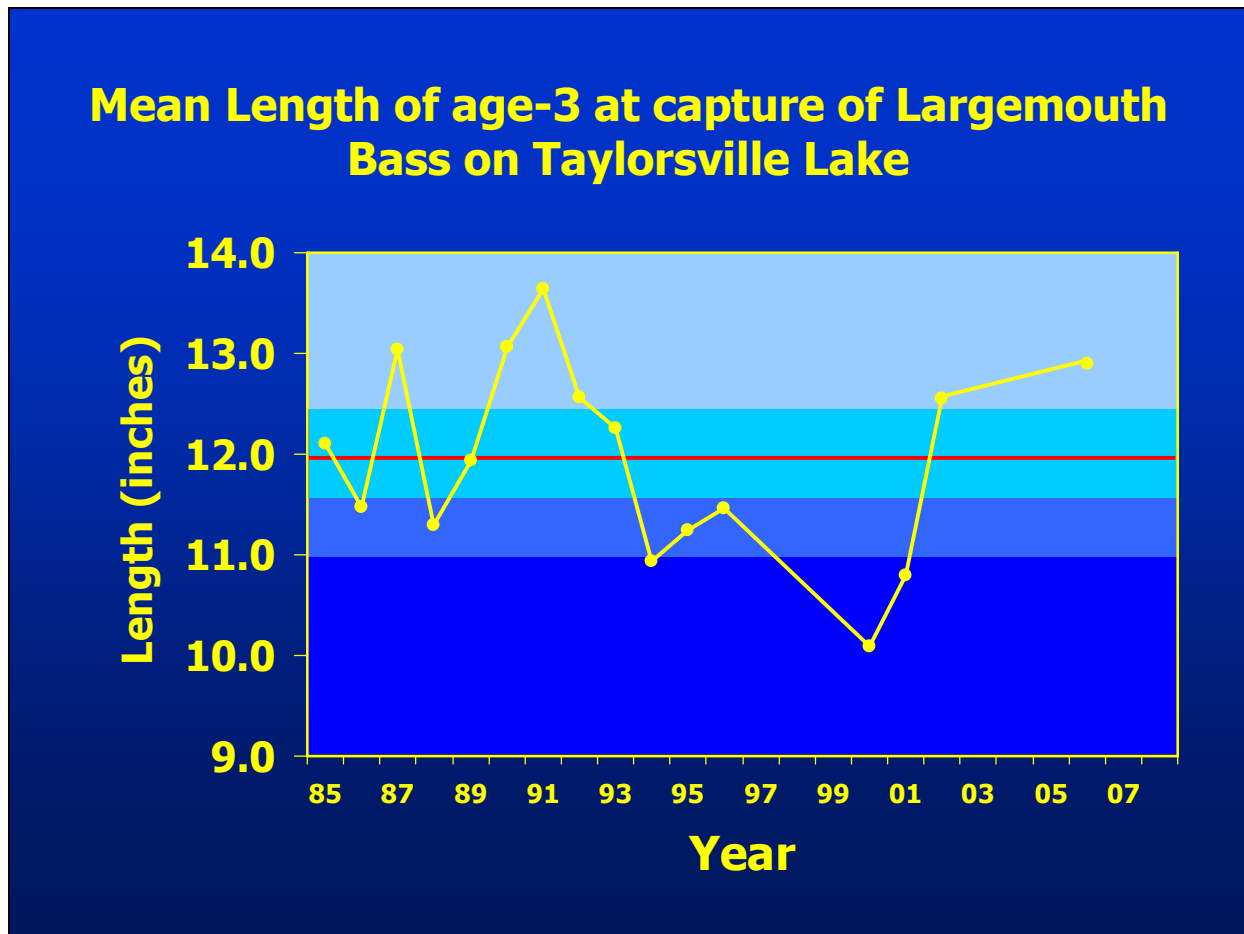
# Taylorsville Lake Bass Assessment 2008

Taylorsville Lake is a 3,050-acre multipurpose reservoir on the Salt River and was impounded in the early 1980's. The lake has a very popular bass fishery due to its close proximity to Louisville and Lexington. Past creel surveys have shown that there is substantial fishing pressure for largemouth bass at Taylorsville Lake. The following graphs show trends and rankings for each of the five population parameters used in the largemouth bass assessment. Please see "The Largemouth Bass Assessment" article for an explanation of how the assessment works.



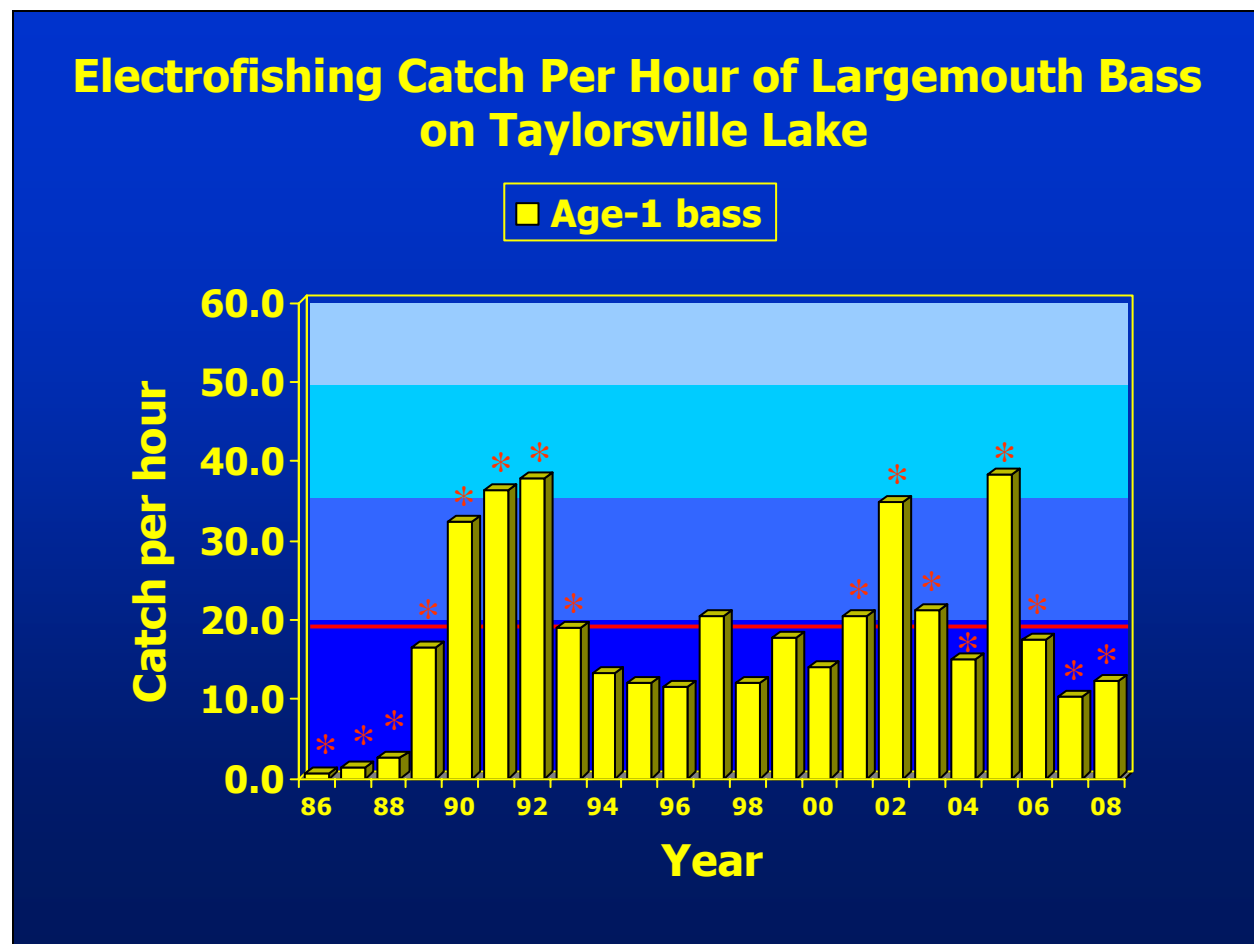
## Parameter 1 – Length at age-3 (growth rate)

At Taylorsville Lake, the length of an age-3 largemouth bass has averaged just less than 12-inches at the lake since impoundment and is represented by the red line. Compared to other reservoirs of a similar size, on average, largemouth bass generally exhibit good growth at Taylorsville Lake. Growth rates can vary and this is generally due to factors such as population dynamics, food resources, and weather patterns. The last year that KDFWR aged largemouth bass at the lake was 2006. Growth during 2006 was ranked as being excellent. KDFWR biologists are planning to re-evaluate the growth rates of largemouth bass at Taylorsville Lake during their 2010 spring sampling.



## Parameter 2 – Numbers of age-1 bass (how good the spawn was)

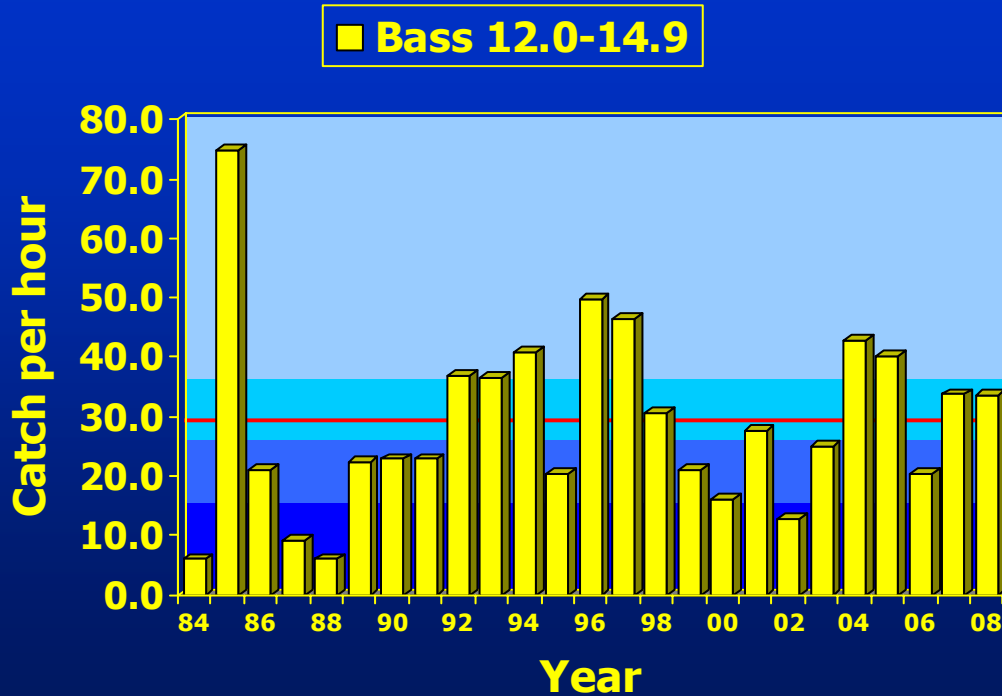
KDFWR looks at the catch rate of age-1 largemouth bass to assess the success of the spawn which occurred in the prior year. This is an important parameter because the number of age-1 bass produced represents how good the fishing will be once these fish grow large enough for anglers to catch. At Taylorsville, age-1 largemouth bass catch rates have averaged less than 20.0 bass/hour of electrofishing as indicated by the red line. This is considered poor when compared to other lakes of similar size. Poor recruitment has been a historic problem at Taylorsville Lake and has required supplemental stocking of largemouth bass over the years. The years with red stars represent when KDFWR stocked (4-5 inch) largemouth bass. In 2005, the spring catch of age-1 largemouth bass was the highest in the history of the lake. Since the 2005 year class, the spring catch of age-1 has been at or below average. These below average spawns may negatively affect the fishery in the future.



### Parameter 3 – Numbers of 12.0-14.9 inch bass

The electrofishing catch of 12.0-14.9 inch largemouth bass has averaged a little less than 30.0 bass/hour over the years as indicated by the red line. As compared to other lakes, this is a good catch rate for this size group of bass. Over the past two years, KDFWR biologists have recorded good catch rates of this size group at Taylorsville Lake. This is important because these fish will grow to exceed the 15 inch legal size limit at the lake in the next year or two. Fishing at the lake is expected to improve over the next several years due to the good numbers of 12.0-14.9 inch bass.

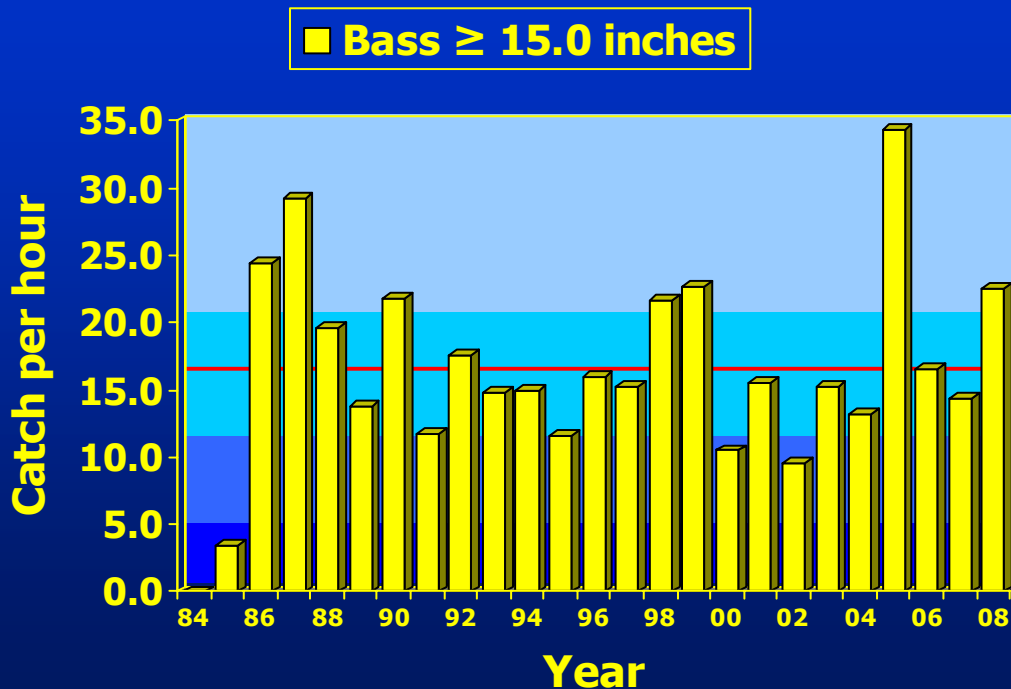
#### Electrofishing Catch Per Hour of Largemouth Bass on Taylorsville Lake



#### Parameter 4 – Numbers of 15.0 inch and larger bass

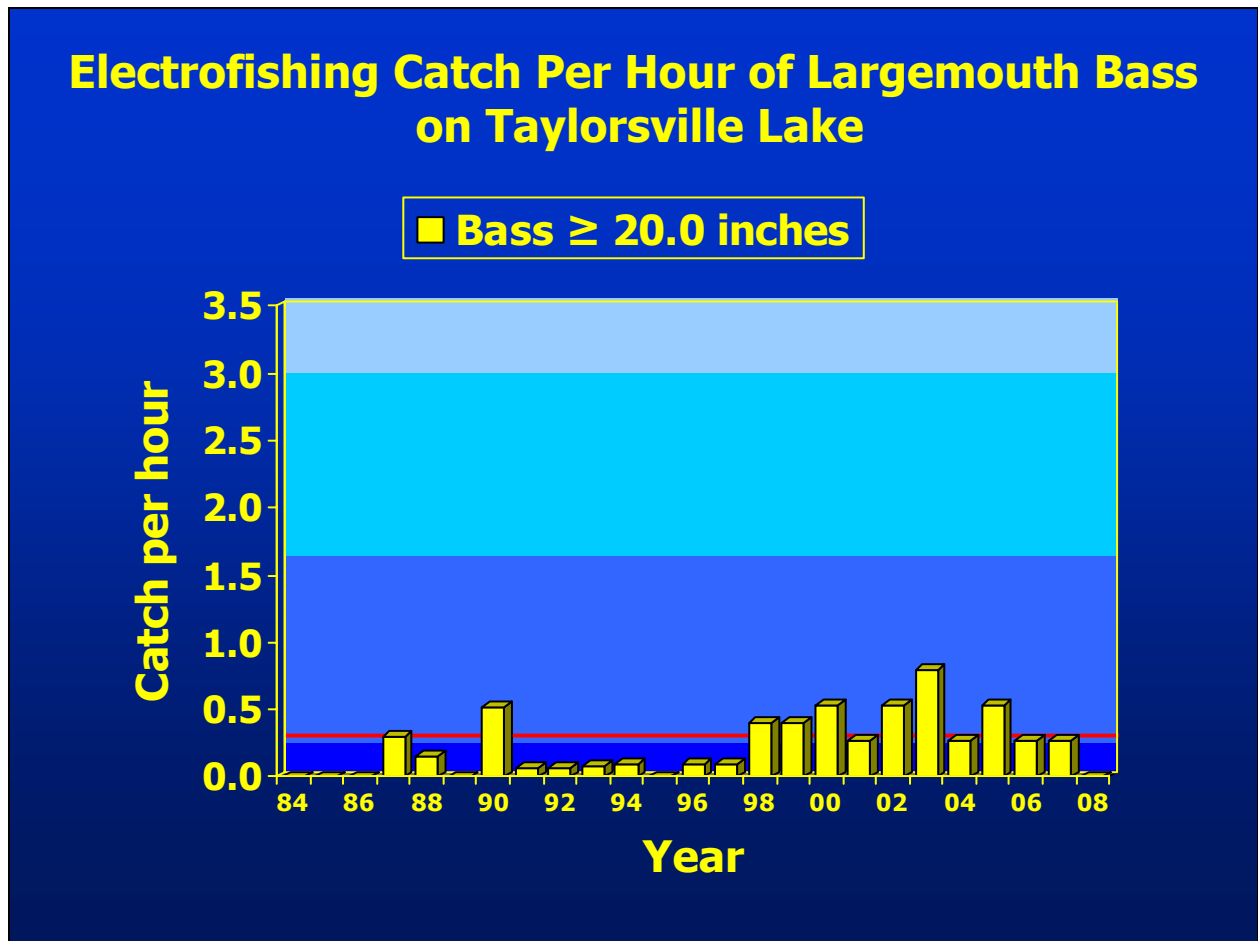
Electrofishing catch of 15.0 inch and larger largemouth bass has averaged over 15.0 bass/hour as indicated by the red line. Again, as compared to other lakes, this is a good catch rate for this size group. In 2008, biologist observed an excellent catch rate of largemouth bass in this size group. Combining what we observed with the catch rate of 12.0-14.9 inch and 15.0 inch and larger largemouth bass, the largemouth bass fishing at Taylorsville Lake looks to be very good over the next couple of years.

#### Electrofishing Catch Per Hour of Largemouth Bass on Taylorsville Lake



### Parameter 5 – Numbers of 20.0 inch and larger bass

The electrofishing catch of 20.0 inch and larger largemouth bass has averaged about 0.2 fish/hour over the history of Taylorsville Lake as indicated by the red line. As compared to other lakes, this is a poor catch rate for this size group. However, the overall the catch of 20.0 inch and larger largemouth bass has improved over the past eight years as compared to the early years of the lake.



### Overall – Total Assessment Score (All five parameters added together)

Overall, the largemouth bass fishery at Taylorsville Lake has averaged a fair rating over its history as indicated by the red line. The largemouth bass population at Taylorsville Lake has been very cyclic, rating from fair to good over the history of the lake. In 2008, however, the overall assessment for the largemouth bass population was good. Therefore, the next couple of years look very promising for largemouth bass at Taylorsville Lake.

